Madison County Board of Commissioners

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Interagency Bison Management Plan Committee Martin Zaluski, Chair P.O. Box 202001 Helena, MT 59620

Dr. Zaluski:

The Interagency Bison Management Plan currently includes five state and federal agencies that are tasked with the following missions:

- Maintain a wild, free-ranging bison population;
- Reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission from bison to cattle;
- Manage bison that leave Yellowstone National Park and enter the State of Montana;
- Maintain Montana's brucellosis-free status for domestic livestock.

One of the entities that we feel is missing as a partner or contributing voice in all the discussions related to this issue is County Government. Many of the adaptive strategies the committee develops depend on access to private lands and properties under local County jurisdiction. In addition, many times local law enforcement is called upon to assist with operations carried forth by Department of Livestock.

It is therefore recommended that a representative of County Government from one of the affected Counties surrounding Yellowstone Park be included as a voice in any adaptive management strategies that is reached by the Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Schulz Chair

Board of Commissioners

Commissioner

Commissioner

Madison County

Cc: Governors' Office